

Distr.  
GENERAL  
TD/B/SR.551  
26 March 1990  
Original: ENGLISH

## United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

### TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

#### Twentieth session

#### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 551ST MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
on Thursday, 20 March 1990, at 4 p.m.

President: Mr. NYERGES (Hungary)

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- (a) Arrangement of any change in the membership of the Board and election to membership of main Committee.
- (b) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 75 of the rules of procedure.
- (c) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 79 of the rules of procedure.

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of the Board at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

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- (c) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations
- (d) Assistance for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of Uganda
- (e) Complementary action by UNECA in support of the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development

Report of the Working Party on the UNECA Medium-term Plan and the Programme budget (agenda item 9)

Evaluation of the world trade and economic situation and consideration of issues, policies and appropriate measures to facilitate structural changes in the international economy, taking into account the interrelationships of problems in the areas of trade, development, money and finance, with a view to attaining the establishment of a new international economic order and bearing in mind the further evolution that may be needed in the rules and principles governing international economic relations and UNECA's necessary contribution to a New International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (agenda item 1) (continued)

Assessment of the progress made towards the establishment of a new international economic order (agenda item 4) (continued)

Interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system (agenda item 5) (continued)

- (i) Review of implementation and further action that may be required pursuant to Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX), part A
- (ii) Detailed features for future operations relating to debt problems of interested developing countries (Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX), part B) (agenda item 6) (continued)

The meeting was called to order at 4.15 p.m.

INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND RELATED MATTERS (agenda item 8)

(a) ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD AND ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP OF MAIN COMMITTEES

1. The PRESIDENT announced that he had been informed by the secretariat that it had not received any communications from countries wishing to participate in the main Committees of the Board, and consequently the membership of those committees stood as at the close of the Board's nineteenth session: Committee on Commodities, 95 members; Committee on Manufactures, 90 members; Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 95 members; Committee on Shipping, 91 members; Committee on Transfer of Technology, 87 members; and Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, 86 members.

(c) DESIGNATION OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 78 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE (TD/B/R.21 and Add.1-3)

2. The PRESIDENT invited the Board to consider applications received from two intergovernmental bodies, the Asian Reinsurance Corporation and Arab Federation of Shipping, for designation under rule 78 of the rules of procedure. He drew the Board's attention to documents TD/B/R.21 and Add.1 and 2, which were relevant to the consideration of the applications and were now declassified.

3. He took it that it was the wish of the Board to designate those intergovernmental organizations, so as to enable them to participate, in accordance with the provisions of that rule, in the deliberations of the Board and its subsidiary organs.

4. It was so decided.

(c) DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PURPOSES OF RULE 79 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE. (TD/B/704)

5. The PRESIDENT said that the secretariat had received applications from five non-governmental organizations for designation and classification for the purposes of rule 79 of the rules of procedure. In accordance with established practice, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had consulted the Bureau of the Board on those applications. The Bureau had concurred with the Secretary-General's recommendations (TD/B/705). The organizations concerned were: the African Centre for Monetary Studies; the International Peace Research Association; the United States Trade-mark Association; the International Shipping Federation; and the International Union of Railways. He took it that the Board wished that these five non-governmental organizations should be designated for the purposes of rule 79 of the rules of procedure, and, in accordance with the terms of paragraph 12 (b) of Board Decision 43 (VII), be classified as recommended in the annex to document TD/B/705.

6. It was so decided.

## OTHER BUSINESS (Agenda item 10)

- (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

7. MR. PERCY (Chief, External Relations Unit) said that at the first part of its nineteenth session the Board had been informed of the action taken by the UNCTAD secretariat in implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and of the progress achieved in the projects referred to in the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session (A/34/200/Add.2). Further information on recent important action by UNCTAD in that connection had been prepared and sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

8. The project "Economic and Social Survey of Rhodesia" (EAS/70/010), for which UNCTAD was the executing agency, was not completed as far as the organization was concerned. It had represented an important opportunity for the United Nations system to contribute meaningfully towards an analysis of the types of problems and issues likely to arise at the moment of independence and of some of the possible solutions that could be applied.

9. With regard to Senegal, he said that in July 1977 UNCTAD had prepared a development brief on the commercial policy and the planning of the foreign sector in that territory, an UNCTAD consultant had prepared a study on the external economic sector, and a staff member from the UNCTAD Special Programme for Least Developed, Land-Locked and Island Developing Countries had been seconded to the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Senegal in 1977 to propose and prepare further the projects recommended by UNCTAD as part of the National Programme for Senegal. The project (EAS/70/009), for which UNCTAD was the executing agency, had been approved in June 1977 but had not yet been implemented pending clearance by UNCTAD.

10. Turning to the question of invitations to UNCTAD meeting 8, he said that in conformity with General Assembly resolution 3700 (XXX) notification of the sessions of the Conference and of the Trade and Development Board and of conferences under the auspices of UNCTAD had been sent as requested by the Office of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at Geneva, to the national liberation movements through the Executive Secretary of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa. Representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by OAU had attended a number of UNCTAD meetings. Consultations were being held between the UNCTAD secretariat and officials of OAU, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 33/41, paragraph 13, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/50, paragraph 19. They had included a visit to OAU headquarters.

11. Mr. JAKUBI (Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD), introducing the report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD on proposals on assistance by UNCTAD to the peoples of the colonial Territories and their national liberation movements (TD/B/789), said that the proposals in the report had been made in the light of consultations with UNCTAD and with representatives of the national liberation movements concerned.

12. Mr. JALLI (Italy), speaking on behalf of the Group B countries, said that they had not yet been able to study the proposals contained in document TD/B/789. They therefore requested that no action should be taken on them until the following day.

13. Mr. JEDDA (Tunisia), speaking on behalf of the Group B countries and Algeria, said that the information provided in document TD/B/789 was very useful and made it possible to evaluate UNCTAD's work in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 34/42. Implementation of the measures proposed in the report, in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, would help the colonial Territories and peoples in their efforts to achieve full political and economic independence, efforts which had been increasingly successful in recent years. On behalf of Group B he warmly congratulated the Zimbabwe independence movement on its success in the recent elections in that country, which was the logical result of its long, heroic struggle under the leadership of the Patriotic Front. The vestiges of colonialism remained, however, and were a dangerous source of domination and conflict. The Pretoria régime was trying to retain its control over Namibia, while maintaining the hateful system of apartheid in South Africa. The countries of Group B therefore fully endorsed General Assembly resolution 34/42. They condemned imperialism and the monopolistic exploitation of the colonial Territories and peoples, which was preventing them from achieving full political and economic independence. It was a guiding principle of the policy of the Group B countries to provide firm support to those peoples in their struggle.

(D) ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF UGANDA

14. The PRESIDENT said that, in its resolution 34/132, paragraph 11, the General Assembly had invited the organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, including UNCTAD, to bring to the attention of their governing bodies for their consideration the special needs of Uganda and to report the decisions of those bodies to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by 15 August 1980.

15. Mr. WEISS (Special Programme for Least Developed, Land-locked and Island Countries) said that as the focal point of the United Nations system for activities on behalf of least developed and land-locked countries, UNCTAD had attempted, within the limits of available financing, to provide assistance to Uganda following the emergency in that country in 1978 and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 34/132. In late 1979, with funding from the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa, a consultant had outlined Uganda's immediate rehabilitation needs and the country's longer-term assistance requirements.

16. Since August 1979, UNCTAD had been executing a UNDP-financed regional project for land-locked countries in eastern Africa. Uganda was a key land-locked country, as well as a transit country, in the region covered by that project, and it stood to benefit from the project's longer-term planning

perspective, which was essential in order to mobilize much-needed international finance for improvements in the region's transit transport network. Headquarters' expertise had been made available on two occasions to mount emergency preparatory assistance missions, carried out at the request of the Ugandan Minister of Planning and the UNEP resident representative in Kampala in order to identify possible areas of national assistance in eliminating transport bottlenecks. The secretariat had also had consultations with ILO concerning the possibility of UNCTAD's contributing to the ILO project for a transport advisory group within Uganda's Ministry of Transport. An UNCTAD mission at present in Uganda was updating an earlier overview of the problems and prospects of the country's foreign trade sector and laying the groundwork for Uganda's submission of external aid requirements for the 1980s. The mission would also prepare an analysis that would serve as the basis for the Government's presentation to the 1981 United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries of its case for expanded assistance.

17. The UNCTAD secretariat was recruiting two senior advisers to assist the Ugandan Government in the procurement of commodities and in the management and distribution of essential imports. An important element of that UNEP-financed project would be the purchase of vehicles for the distribution of essential commodities. The UNEP resident representative in Kampala had just requested the urgent recruitment of a transit transport specialist for that project to assist in planning the movement through Goshens of what the Government hoped would be a vastly increased flow of necessary emergency imports, including 400,000 metric tons of food before the end of 1980.

18. Replying to a question from Mr. KAMUNGU (Uganda), he said that the ongoing assistance to which he had referred had been programmed prior to the adoption of General Assembly resolution 34/173, but the two earlier missions to Uganda and the mission currently in that country were the direct result of the request contained in that resolution.

19. Mr. KAMUNGU (Uganda) said that he wished to inform the Board of the problems faced by Uganda after a decade of complete mismanagement of the country's economy by the fascist régime of Idi Amin and to appeal to the international community for assistance. The situation in Uganda resembled that of Europe after the Second World War, but Uganda had no Marshall Plan to assist it. Instead, it must look to the international community to assist it in its own recovery effort. His Government appreciated the efforts already made by the UNCTAD secretariat, and it hoped that UNCTAD would continue to provide all possible help.

20. He stressed that the situation in Uganda was very grave. Large numbers of the population were facing famine as a result of the struggle for liberation, compounded by adverse weather conditions. There was an acute shortage of the most basic commodities. Industrial output was virtually non-existent, most shops were closed, and those which were open were empty. Innumerable fact-finding missions had been sent by international organizations; indeed, there was a feeling in the country that the United Nations agencies considered fact-finding missions an end in themselves. He stressed that results were urgently needed: time was of the essence.

21. Mr. WILSON (United Kingdom) said that his country gave its full support, within its current financial constraints, to the United Nations programme of assistance for the reconstruction and development of Uganda. The first priority in Uganda was to establish an effective police force in order to provide a solid base for economic reconstruction and reassure potential donors of aid, which had been discouraged because of the lack of law and order in the country. The United Kingdom had made \$6 million available to Uganda, including \$250,000 for police vehicles and equipment. In addition, the United Kingdom was currently providing training for senior Ugandan police officers in the United Kingdom.

22. Mr. KAVIRI (Uganda) said that a number of donor agencies and countries apparently held the view that the situation in Uganda must be stabilized before aid could be provided. His Government believed, on the contrary, that the stabilization of the situation in Uganda depended on the provision of aid. Ugandan industry was at a standstill, shops were closed, the economic infrastructure had been destroyed and unemployment had reached an unprecedented level. Such a situation was clearly a source of instability and lawlessness, and assistance was therefore needed immediately. If production could be resumed, the disorder in the country could be contained.

(a) COMPLEMENTARY ACTION BY UNCTAD IN SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION ADOPTED BY THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

23. Mr. HILBORN (Chief, Agricultural Commodities Branch) said that, in endorsing the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, held in July 1979, the General Assembly had invited the organizations, organs and bodies concerned within the United Nations system to implement, as appropriate, the conclusions and recommendations set forth in the Programme of Action. Subsequently, the Conference of FAO had invited organizations in the United Nations system to participate with FAO in the implementation of the Programme of Action, in particular through the ACC Task Force on Rural Development. The Task Force had reviewed the draft organizational programme analysis of rural development programmes in the United Nations system, and it had evaluated the related country-level exercise and action taken to implement the Programme of Action.

24. UNCTAD was not directly involved in rural development projects, and it was therefore suggested that the Board might wish to take note of the invitation of FAO and to agree that the question of possible complementary action by UNCTAD in support of the World Conference's Programme of Action should be pursued through the machinery of the ACC Task Force and that a report should be submitted to the Board should any specific complementary action by UNCTAD be envisaged.

25. Mr. JORDAO (Poland), speaking on behalf of the Group B countries and Mongolia, said that it was important for UNCTAD to confine itself to activities falling within its competence, and the scope of that competence should not be expanded. The socialist countries wished, however, to emphasize that, in their view, agrarian reform was of the greatest importance for development in general. They had participated in the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and had largely endorsed its Declaration of Principles and Programme of Action. Experience showed that progressive agrarian reform was one of the main ways of

achieving social and economic change, as well as of helping developing countries to achieve genuine economic expansion and overcome fundamental problems. The socialist countries would continue to co-operate with the developing countries in the implementation of agrarian reform.

26. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Board should take note of EAC's invitation and agree that the question of possible complementary action by UNCTAD in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the World Conference should be pursued through the machinery of the AGU Task Force and that a report should be submitted to the Board if any specific complementary action by UNCTAD was envisaged.

27. It was so decided.

REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN AND THE PROGRAMME BUDGET  
(agenda item 7) (TD/B/L.556; TD/B/WP/1.1 and Add.1)

28. Mr. KUNUGI (Japan), Chairman of the Working Party on the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme Budget, introducing the report of the Working Party (TD/B/L.556; TD/B/WP/1.1 and Add.1), said that, under Conference resolution 114 (V) and decisions taken by the Trade and Development Board at its nineteenth session, the Working Party had been entrusted with the task of assisting the Board in examining the impact of major decisions on UNCTAD's programme of work and reviewing the organization's technical co-operation activities. Based on its work on reports submitted by the secretariat (TD/B/WP/2 and 3 and Add.1-), the Working Party had reviewed both the medium-term plan for the period 1980-1983 and the technical co-operation activities of UNCTAD. It had also approved the provisional agenda for its second session, which included the question of programme evaluation in the field of manufactures and the development of a model plan in the field of commodities.

29. In reviewing the medium-term plan, the Working Party had decided not to submit specific conclusions, but to reflect fully in its report the views expressed by delegations and regional groups, together with the explanations provided by the secretariat. It proposed that the secretariat should take the substance of the report into account in submitting a revision of the plan for consideration by review bodies, including the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC).

30. The Working Party had been grateful for the precise information contained in the first annual report by the secretariat on the technical co-operation activities of UNCTAD. While recognizing that these activities were not the main task assigned to the Conference, it generally agreed on their importance in accelerating the development process of the developing countries. Noting the steady increase in the volume of project expenditures, it expressed the view that the demands on the resources of the secretariat in providing support to these activities should not prejudice the implementation of UNCTAD's major tasks. It recognized, however, that there were linkages and feedbacks between these activities, on the one hand, and the research and analysis work of UNCTAD, on the other hand, which operated to the benefit of both. The Working Party felt that the secretariat's report, as well as its own report, might usefully be transmitted by the Board to bodies such as CPC and also to funding agencies such as UNDP.

31. Mr. MILLANTON (Philippines) endorsed the suggestion that the views of members of the Working Party should be made available to the appropriate bodies in New York and to the relevant funding agencies. In that connection, he pointed out that the island developing countries faced particular problems which had not yet received the attention they deserved. It was to be hoped that more would be done in that respect in future. The importance of economic co-operation among developing countries had been established, and such co-operation should continue to receive the support of the international community.
32. Mr. MILLON (Ghana) said that the question of obtaining the necessary funds for implementation of resolutions was extremely important. No resolution should be adopted unless it was fully supported. The information given by the UNCTAD secretariat in that connection, as reflected in the Report of the Working Group, was a full explanation of the situation but not a full participation.
33. Mr. ARABIS (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the members of the Group of 77, said that, in their view, the Board should take note of the report under consideration and request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to transmit it to the appropriate bodies of the United Nations for their consideration.
34. Mr. WISSE (Poland), speaking on behalf of the Group B countries, said that the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget had not been able to make full use of the time allocated to it, and had therefore been unable to give substantive items the consideration they deserved. In addition, there had been delays in the distribution of documents, with the result that delegations had been unable to prepare themselves in the appropriate manner. It was to be hoped that preparations for future meetings would be more satisfactory.
35. The Group B countries considered that UNCTAD's activities in the field of technical assistance should be kept under review and should not interfere with the organization's main tasks as defined in General Assembly resolution 1995(XIX). They agreed, also, with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 52/197 and to the competence of other relevant bodies in the United Nations system. The UNCTAD secretariat should observe the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the recruitment of experts for technical co-operation projects.
36. Mr. PERCHENT suggested that the Board should take note of the report of the Working Party (20/P/L.10, 21/P/L.1 and 22/L.1) and request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to transmit the report, with the comments thereon, to the appropriate United Nations bodies for their consideration.
37. It was so decided.

EVALUATION OF THE WORLD TRADE AND ECONOMIC SITUATION AND CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES, POLICIES AND APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO FACILITATE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF PROBLEMS IN THE AREAS OF TRADE, DEVELOPMENT, MONEY AND FINANCE WITH A VIEW TO ATTAINING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND BEARING IN MIND THE FURTHER EVOLUTION THAT MAY BE NEEDED IN THE RULES AND PRINCIPLES GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND UNCTAD'S NECESSARY CONTRIBUTION TO A NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (agenda item 3) (continued)

ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (agenda item 4) (continued) (TD/B/7.7 and Add.1)

INTERDEPENDENCE OF PROBLEMS OF TRADE, DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM (agenda item 5) (continued) (TD/B/7.3 and TD/B(CX)/CNP.1)

- (4) REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND FURTHER ACTION THAT MAY BE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RESOLUTION 165 (3-IX), PART A
- (11) DETAILED FEATURES FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS RELATING TO BEST PROBLEMS OF INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RESOLUTION 169 (3-IX), PART B) (agenda item 6) (continued) (TD/B/7.9, TD/B(CX)/CNP.1)

30. Mr. JAIRI (Italy), speaking on behalf of the Group B countries, said that the symptoms of the serious difficulties which were hampering the growth of the world economy in all sectors were so evident and widespread that they could not be ignored. There was a high degree of uncertainty and it was increasingly difficult to find viable solutions to such problems as high levels of inflation, unemployment, monetary problems and the energy crisis.

39. Although the prospects were far from clear and effective ways and means of redressing the situation were still being sought, UNCTAD had recently achieved a certain amount of progress in certain fields, such as the negotiations on a Common Fund, the negotiations on a Code of Conduct on the transfer of technology, the negotiations on restrictive business practices, and in the Intergovernmental Group on Least Developed Countries. It was confident that further progress could be made in these fields and that UNCTAD would be able to make an appropriate contribution to the new global round of negotiations.

40. The general economic situation worldwide remained a matter for grave concern. The factors of uncertainty and instability raised serious questions about the future of the world economy and the resumption of a balanced growth and expansion of trade. Many developing countries had suffered particularly from the present imbalances and a large number of them had been facing severe current account balance-of-payments deficits and increasing external indebtedness, as well as inadequate growth rates. The least developed countries had been particularly affected.

41. The Group B countries therefore supported efforts to promote an efficient, growing and increasingly stable world economy and shared the objective of the developing countries to move towards a new international economic order in which all countries could realize their potential. They believed that the necessary changes could be made in a balanced and orderly manner. In a number of sectors a structural change was taking place in a dynamic world economy through shifts in the patterns of production, consumption and trade and structural changes were necessary as countries developed and used their domestic sources more effectively.

42. The Group B countries recognized the growing interdependence both in the relationship between issues such as international trade, monetary and financial affairs, commodities, agriculture, energy and resource transfers and in the relationship between national economies. No country could pursue its economic well-being through a single channel or in isolation from other countries. Intensified economic co-operation among all countries according to their varying capacities was essential for advancement of the common interest. While the developing countries bore the essential responsibility for their own development, their efforts to strengthen and diversify their economies and improve the living standards of their people could succeed only in an environment of international co-operation. The international community's concern must be to facilitate the necessary structural changes and to promote an efficient and growing world economy and an expansion of the developing countries' economic role in the international system, through measures to reduce uncertainty and instability and attenuate the hardships of social adjustment. The Group B countries reaffirmed their determination to contribute to the achievement of these goals.

43. Referring in particular to agenda item 5, he said that it was in the spirit of paragraph 5 of part A of Board resolution 165 (IX) that the developed donor countries of Group B, in implementing that resolution, had defined the beneficiaries for retroactive adjustment measures. The measures taken - which demonstrated clear political will on a delicate subject - had led to a substantial improvement in the quality and volume of aid furnished by Group B countries to the developing countries concerned. He stressed the importance of part B of the resolution and said that, in the view of Group B, the objective of the work in that area should be to strengthen the capacity of existing mechanisms to deal effectively and coherently with individual countries facing problems of indebtedness. In that connexion he noted that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, at the invitation of the President of the Paris Club, had participated as an observer in recent meetings of Creditor Clubs.

44. Bearing in mind the importance attached by all concerned to the issue of the developing countries' indebtedness, the Group B countries considered that that question should remain on the agenda of the Board.

45. Mr. HIRBASS (Saudi Arabia) said that the report by the UNCTAD secretariat in document TD/B/783 predicted that in 1980 and 1981 the developing oil-producing countries would have a balance-of-payments surplus, but that the developed market economy countries and the developing non-oil-producing countries would have a deficit. It was further stated in paragraph 9 of the document that the acceleration of inflation expected in 1980 was due in large measure to a 60 per cent increase in the price of imported petroleum expected for that year. That prediction was not correct. The present world inflation had started long before the increase in oil prices and that increase had been the result of inflation, not its cause. In 1971, when the advanced countries had taken measures to deal with their own economic

problems and endeavour to control inflation, oil prices had been very low. They had not risen until 1974, three years later. The main reasons for the rise in oil prices had been the fall in the purchasing power of oil revenues and the deterioration in the value and purchasing power of the dollar.

46. Among the real reasons for the increasing inflation were the developing countries' failure to go to the root of the problem and to show political will to solve them; the fact that they had taken only temporary, palliative measures: heavy expenditure on armaments; military undertakings; and interference in the internal affairs of developing countries.

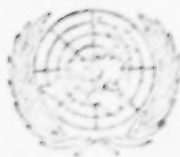
47. His country was producing oil in excess of its own requirements in order to meet world demand, especially that of developed countries which were unable to adapt themselves to the proper use of energy. It did not suppose the fact that most of the developed countries carried large reserves of oil was sufficient to show that oil was a non-renewable resource and his country's warning was, it was subject to currency fluctuations. Saudi Arabia had increased its oil exports and oil income, aid to over 5 per cent of its gross national product - a level which was higher than that achieved by the developed countries.

48. Mr. AL-JABER AL-SABRI (United Arab Emirates) said that document TD/77/1 contained an excellent survey of the world economic situation and of the problems. The Saudi Arabian representative had adequately explained the real problems at present facing the developing countries. In 1974, for example, the developed market economy countries had had a balance-of-payments surplus of over \$30.6 billion, which had become a deficit of \$6.6 billion in 1975, despite the fact that oil prices had increased by only 2 per cent in real terms - taking into account the fall in the dollar exchange rate and the increase in prices of industrial goods. Table 6 in document TD/77/13 shows that the OPEC countries had recorded high economic growth rates at the time of the greatest increase in oil prices. The table was very useful in that it showed the relationship between inflation and the index of consumer prices. The two indicators were fairly similar and the rate of inflation was sometimes higher than the GNP growth rate.

49. Inflation was the cause of the developing countries' difficulties - including those of the developing oil-producing countries. The developed countries' high inflation rate also caused unemployment since these countries depended heavily on exports for their economic growth. The adverse effects on their balance of payments and on their trade and current account balances were shown respectively in table 1 and table 7 of the same document. The developing countries' balance-of-payments deficit was caused, not by oil prices and oil export policies, but by the developed countries' restrictive business practices, protectionist policies and tax policies - taxes on oil imports represented a high percentage of prices, causing an increase in the price of their exports to developing countries - and by monopolistic tendencies in the petroleum sector. The transnational oil corporations had made very high profits since 1973 when there had first been talk of the oil crisis, which was in fact an artificial appellation.

50. Mr. ARAUJO (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the members of the Group of 77, said that those countries had submitted, under agenda item 5, a draft resolution which he was confident would be generally supported (TD/L.560). They had also prepared a draft resolution on the subject of agenda item 6. With regard to agenda item 3, he suggested that discussion of that question should be postponed until the twenty-first session. Lastly, with regard to agenda item 4, on which





United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.  
GENERAL

TD/B/SW.5/2  
24 March 1980

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Eleventh special session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
on Thursday, 20 March 1980, at 6 p.m.

President: Mr. NYENGE (Hungary)

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The contribution of UNCTAD to the preparation of the New International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade (agenda item 2) (continued)

Adoption of the report of the Board to the General Assembly (agenda item 4)

closure of the session

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The meeting was called to order at 5.25 p.m.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF UNCTAD TO THE PREPARATION OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE  
(agenda item 2) (TD/B/775, TD/B/785, TD/B/787, TD/B/791 and Add.1)  
(continued)

1. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the extensive discussions which had taken place on the reports of the High-level Intergovernmental Group on the contribution of UNCTAD to the preparation of the new International Development Strategy on its first (TD/B/775) and second (TD/B/791 and Add.1) sessions. A variety of opinions had been expressed on how work on the Strategy should be continued in UNCTAD but there seemed to be no consensus. He therefore asked whether any group wished to propose a resumption of the work of the High-level Intergovernmental Group on the contribution of UNCTAD to the preparation of a new International Development Strategy.
2. Mr. CASTRO ARAUJO (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the position of that Group was that, given the impossibility of negotiating on the documents concerned, the Group wished them to be officially transmitted to the Preparatory Committee in New York for consideration as UNCTAD's contribution to the preparation of the new International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.
3. The PRESIDENT invited the Board to consider the proposal made by the Group of 77 to transmit the High-level Intergovernmental Group's reports and the annexes thereto to the fifth session of the Preparatory Committee for the new International Development Strategy as UNCTAD's contribution to the new International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade.
4. The proposal was adopted.
5. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Board should take note of the report of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries (TD/B/787) and the report of the Group of High-level Experts on the Comprehensive New Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (TD/B/775) and decide to transmit those two reports to the fifth session of the Preparatory Committee for the new International Development Strategy as background documents.
6. The President's proposal was adopted.
7. Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines) said that, while he did not object to the decision just taken by the Board to transmit the documents submitted by regional groups to the High-level Intergovernmental Group as the contribution of UNCTAD to the formulation of a development strategy for the Third Development Decade, he wished to state how his delegation viewed that decision. He had serious doubts as to whether documents conflicting both in form and in substance could be clearly identified by the Preparatory Committee as a contribution of UNCTAD. He agreed, however, that the documents should be transmitted to New York so that the Preparatory Committee might at least know that some attempt had been made by UNCTAD to make a contribution to the preparation of the new International Development Strategy.

8. Mr. GLOVER AKEFF (Ghana) said that it was not his delegation's intention to obstruct the consensus by which UNCTAD's contribution to the strategy for the Third Development Decade had been adopted. It would be recalled, however, that his delegation had expressed dissatisfaction at the way in which the situation was being handled, and it still had reservations regarding the way in which the documents submitted by the various regional groups had merely been collected for transmission to the Preparatory Committee without there having been a serious discussion of them. His delegation in Geneva would report to its counterpart in New York on how the matter had been handled.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE BOARD TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (agenda item 4)  
(TD/R/L.557)

9. Mr. MEKASSI (Tunisia), Rapporteur, introduced the draft report of the Board as its eleventh special session (TD/R/L.557) and drew attention to some necessary editorial amendments to the text of chapter II, section F.

10. The PRESIDENT invited the Board to consider the draft report.

11. Mrs. CHEN EL (Panama) said that her delegation wished the following paragraph to be added to the report after paragraph 35:

"The representative of Panama wished to place on record that her country, Panama, had expressed reservations with regard to paragraph 36 (c) of section VI of the Group of 77 text, which dealt with transport. Some of the reasons for which her country had such reservations had been stated in the plenary of the Group of 77 regional meeting and additional reasons had been given in the plenary of the High-level Intergovernmental Group on the contribution of UNCTAD to the preparation of the new international development strategy on its second session. Her delegation would continue to give its reasons within the appropriate bodies."

12. The addition of the paragraph proposed by the Panamanian representative was approved.

13. The draft report (TD/R/L.557), as a whole, as thus amended and with further minor drafting amendments, was approved.

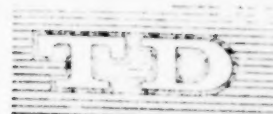
14. The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Board authorized the Rapporteur to complete the report as required after the close of its session.

15. It was so decided.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

16. After an exchange of courtesies, the PRESIDENT declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 6.55 p.m.



Distr.  
GENERAL

T-2/CE.557  
21 March 1966

Originals: ENGLISH

## United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

### TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Twentieth session

#### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 557TH MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on  
Friday, 21 March 1966, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. HUMPHREY (Hungary)

#### CONTENTS

Procedural matters (agenda item 1) (continued)

(a) Adoption of the report of credentials

Evaluation of the world trade and economic situation and consideration of issues, policies and appropriate measures to facilitate structural changes in the international economy, taking into account the interrelationships of problems in the areas of trade, development, money and finance with a view to attaining the consolidation of a new international economic order and bearing in mind the further evolution that may be needed in the rules and principles governing international economic relations and UNCTAD's necessary contribution to a New International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. (agenda item 2) (continued)

Assessment of the progress made towards the establishment of the new international economic order (agenda item 3) (continued)

Interdependence of problems of trade, development finance and the international monetary system (agenda item 5) (continued)

Review of implementation and further action that may be required pursuant to Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX), Part A.

Detailed features for future operations relating to debt problems of interested developing countries (Trade and Development Board Resolution 165 (S-IX), Part B) (agenda item 6) (continued)

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of the Board at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

CE.60-51227

The meeting was called to order at 6.30 a.m.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS (agenda item 1) (continued):

(a) ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON PRESENTATION TD/B/75

1. The report on presentation TD/B/75 adopted

EVALUATION OF THE WORLD TRADE AND ECONOMIC SITUATION AND CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES, POLICIES AND APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO FACILITATE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF COUNTRIES IN THE AREA OF TRADE, DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY AND FINANCE WITH A VIEW TO ATTAINING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND BEARING IN MIND THE EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION THAT HAS BEEN HELD IN THE RULES AND PRINCIPLES GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND UNCTAD'S NECESSARY CONTRIBUTION TO A NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE (agenda item 2) (continued)

2. The PRESIDENT suggested that, in the light of material set out in the Contact Group, the Board might wish to transmit agenda item 2, the twenty-first session of the Board and that it should be included in the provisional agenda for that session, subject to deletion of the words "and UNCTAD's necessary contribution to a New International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade".

3. It was so decided.

ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (agenda item 4) (continued) (TD/B/757 and Add.1)

4. The PRESIDENT suggested that, following discussions which had taken place in the Contact Group, the Board might wish to take note of the report by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/757 and Add.1) and decide to transmit it to the special session of the General Assembly, together with the relevant section of the report of the Board on its twentieth session.

5. It was so decided.

6. Mr. MONCE-LOPEZ (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that, while the Group joined in the consensus to transmit document TD/B/757 and Add.1 to the special session of the General Assembly, it wished also to be conveyed to the General Assembly its concern and deep disappointment at the slow progress in the implementation of the new international economic order in various fields, which it attributed largely to a lack of political will on the part of the developed countries.

INTERDEPENDENCE OF PROBLEMS OF TRADE, DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AND THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM (agenda item 5) (continued) (TD/B/753; TD/B/L.563)

7. The PRESIDENT suggested that, as a result of consultations which had taken place in the Contact Group, the Board might wish to adopt the draft decision which he had submitted in document TD/B/L.563. He understood that the draft decision in document TD/B/L.560 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.



particular importance to the least developed countries as it met an urgent and immediate need. He welcomed the action taken by the Participants under that resolution and urged other least developed countries to follow suit and adopt measures in fulfillment of their commitment. He wished to express Mr. Delegation's gratitude to the speaker for his speech and would now move the vote by 2 minutes. He urged countries such as the United States of America, Canada, and the United Kingdom to fulfill their commitment and perhaps lead by example among least developed countries. He also urged the representatives of Japan, which country had taken partial debt-remission measures, to urge the Government to implement their resolution 15 (C-23).

16. His delegation hoped to observe the progress of the work during the present session of the Board.

17. Mr. KAMEHARA TOSIYUKI (Japan) welcomed the General Declaration expressed by the least developed countries, which laid a complete commitment upon the developed to their exports. He noted that Japan would be pleased to that problem. He also noted that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had expressed the intention to (1) the country to lead Japan's commitment for Africa in regard to economic aid and to provide Japan's high technology goods in heavy trade.

18. Mr. JONGHUNT said that Japan had also been concerned to the United States. He requested that Japan should also be asked for that commitment as that the work he had submitted in document TS/5/1.50.

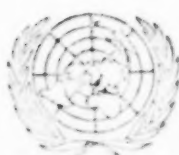
19. It was so decided.

20. The PRESIDENT said he understood that the draft resolution in document TS/5/1.50 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

21. Mr. JONGHUNT (Japan) said that the positive of the Group B countries on the substance of the decision that Japan had been obtained during the discussion on resolution 165 (C-23) and was recognized in the relevant report of the Board. That position was at hand. He requested that the statement be reflected in the report of the present session.

22. The PRESIDENT announced that he was obliged to leave Geneva shortly and would therefore, in his report, be unable to provide with the Board's deliberations up to the close of the session.

The session ends at 1 p.m.



Distr.  
GENERAL  
TD/B/CE.534  
8 April 1980  
Original: ENGLISH

# United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

## TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

### Twenty-first session

#### SEVENTH SESSION OF THE 25th MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
on Tuesday, 27 March 1980, at 12.00 A.M.

Chairman:

Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia)

### AGENDA

#### Item 10: Agenda Item 10 (continued)

Discussion of the declaration on the granting of independence  
to the peoples of the non-aligned countries and the  
people of the Caribbean Sea and the United Nations (continued)

Chairman: Mr. Jaramillo (Colombia)

### Proposed amendments to the agenda.

Proposed amendments should be submitted in one of the working languages. They  
should be sent to the Secretariat and also incorporated in a copy of the  
agenda. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to  
the Office of the Executive Director, room E-6108, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Any corrections to the records of the meetings of the Board at this session  
will be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end  
of the session.

The meeting was called to order at 12.30 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS (agenda item 10) (continued):

- (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE CONFERENCE OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE ON THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS CONCERNING WORK FOR UNITED NATIONS (S.12.10) (TD/B/L.562)

Mr. MONGE-LATTE (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the speakers of the draft decision under agenda item 10 (c) which had been submitted in document TD/B/L.562 had agreed that, with a lack of time at the present session, that text should be considered by the Board at its twenty-first session.

Mr. CHAZALLA (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the Board would that decision would have been taken on the draft decision at the twenty-first session. However, in view of requests by other groups for more time to study the implications of the draft decision, the Group of 77 in general, and the African Group in particular, proposed that consideration of document TD/B/L.562 should be deferred until the twenty-first session of the Board.

It was so decided.

REPORT OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE (agenda items 3 and 4) (TD/B/L.563)  
TD/B(XX)/SC/L.4 and L.4.1

Mr. DIAZ VARGAS (Mexico), Vice-Chairman-ex-Reporteur of the Sessional Committee, introducing the Committee's report (TD/B/L.563; TD/B(XX)/SC/L.4 and L.4.1), pointed out that a revision of paragraph 36 of document TD/B(XX)/SC/L.4/L.4.1 had been accepted by the Group of 77 and the revised text would appear in the report of the Board at the session. He referred briefly to the draft resolutions and draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Board in respect of agenda item 3 (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.5, L.6, L.11, L.15, L.16 and L.17) and drew attention to a draft resolution and three draft decisions (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.1/Rev.1, L.1, L.1 and L.14) on which the Board was invited to take a decision since the Committee had failed to reach agreement on them.

The PRESIDENT thanked the Chairman and Vice-Chairman-ex-Reporteur of the Sessional Committee for the work they had done and for the draft report which had been submitted.

Rationalization of the permanent machinery of UNCTAD (Conference resolution 114 (V))

Mr. STEINBACHER (Administrative Services) said that, if the Working Group recommended in paragraph 2 of the draft decision in document TD/B(XX)/SC/L.5 was established during the Board's twenty-first session and within the servicing structure of the Board, there would be no additional financial implications; if it was not, the secretariat would have to assess the financial implications and make a statement on them.

The draft decision in document TD/B(XX)/SC/L.5 was adopted.

Mr. HAMRATH (Netherlands), referring to the decision just adopted, said that some paragraphs in document TD/B(XX)/SC/L.1/Rev.1 did not adequately represent his Delegation's views.

Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines) said that there were measures which the Secretary-General could take at once - before the Working Group had decided upon was conceived and with no need for specific action by the Board - in order to make UNCTAD a more responsive and effective body. A number of existing General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions provided a mandate and guidelines for that purpose, an example being the provision requiring observance of the "six-week rule", which had never been fully put into effect. The adoption of such initial rationalization measures would ease the tasks of the Working Group and of the Board itself.

Mr. ABILA (Philippines) confirmed the Philippine representative's observations. Every Member-State had to be kept apprised of measures to take in order to improve the Board's working procedures, with a view to arriving at a generally accepted principle as early as possible. Lack of time, not lack of interest, had prevented the Board from doing so during the present session. If the Board could reach general agreement concerning the areas in which the Secretary-General would continue to study measures, its members could then concentrate on the areas where a mandate for action had existed.

Mr. USSEI (United Arab Emirates) said that rationalization was one of the Board's most important tasks. Therefore, the need for secretariat action regarding the Philippine representative's proposal was clearly. Such action would make the Board work more effectively and enable it to make more contributions to achieve better results, in a spirit of increased international unity. His delegation called on all members of UNCTAD, and on the UNCTAD secretariat, to promote the rationalization process and thus increase UNCTAD's effectiveness.

Mr. CUREL (Secretary-General of UNCTAD) said that the UNCTAD secretariat would give careful consideration to the comments of the previous speakers and would make its contribution by preparing for rationalization available to the Board at its twenty-first session. The secretariat would endeavour to give effect to such suggestions as would be implemented in the meantime.

Strengthening the legal and technical capacity of developing countries including secretariat staff to deal with trade law and practice (Draft Decision 312 (1))  
(TI/3(X)/SC/L.6)

Mr. CHAGALL (United Republic of Tanzania) proposed that, in order to remove ambiguity and to let the Committee on Transfer of Technology at its third session, the full stop at the end of draft Decision TI/3(X)/SC/L.6 should be replaced by a comma and followed by the words "taking into account Conference resolution 312 (V)".

It was so decided.

Draft Decision TI/3(X)/SC/L.6, as amended, was adopted.

Development aspects of the reverse transfer of technology (Conference resolution 102 (V)) (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.11)

Draft resolution TD/B(XX)/SC/L.11 was adopted.

Matters remitted to the permanent machinery of UNCTAD: draft resolution entitled "Transnational corporations and international commodity trade" (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.15)

Draft decision TD/B(XX)/SC/L.15 was adopted.

Trade and trade-related aspects of industrial collaboration arrangements (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.16)

Draft resolution TD/B(XX)/SC/L.16 was adopted.

Multilateral Trade Negotiations (Conference decision 132 (V)) (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.17)

Draft resolution TD/B(XX)/SC/L.17 was adopted.

The meeting rose at 1.30 a.m.



Distr.  
GENERAL

TD/B/SR.535  
1 April 1980

Original: ENGLISH

# United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

## TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Twentieth session

### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 535TH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
on Tuesday, 25 March 1980, at 6 p.m.

President: Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia)

### CONTENTS

- (i) Review of implementation and further action that may be required pursuant to Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX), part A
- (ii) Detailed features for future operations relating to debt problems of interested developing countries (Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (S-IX), part B) (agenda item 6) (continued)
- Report of the Sessional Committee (agenda items 2 and 7) (continued)
- Procedural matters (agenda item 1) (continued):
- (d) Provisional agenda for the twenty-first regular session of the Board and organization of the work of the session

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of the Board at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

The meeting was called to order at 2.05 p.m.

- (i) REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND FURTHER ACTION THAT MAY BE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RESOLUTION 165 (S-IX), PART A
- (ii) DETAILED FEATURES AND FUTURE OPERATIONS RELATIVE TO BEST PROBLEMS OF INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RESOLUTION 165 (S-IX), PART B) (agenda item 6) (continued)

Mr. CHIU Wen-lin (Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD), replying to the question asked by the representative of Zaïre at the 523rd meeting, said that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD had written to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) offering UNCTAD's full co-operation in the implementation of Conference resolution 110(V) and suggesting possible courses of action, including the visit of a joint ECA/UNCTAD fact-finding mission to Zaïre to elaborate the terms of reference of the studies referred to in the resolution. In reply, the Executive Secretary of ECA had informed the UNCTAD secretariat that, in compliance with resolution 295(XIII) of the fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa, ECA had sent a preliminary mission to Zaïre to identify that country's international transport problems and discuss possible solutions with the Zaïre authorities, to whom the mission's report, with specific proposals for detailed follow-up studies, had since been submitted.

The UNCTAD secretariat has been informed that steps had been taken to ensure that the relevant proposals were incorporated in the programme for the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa. It was in the process of inviting Governments to provide more detailed material on projects already in that programme.

Furthermore, a number of activities on behalf of Zaïre had been undertaken by UNCTAD. A UNDP-funded technical assistance project on transit transport in eastern and central Africa, covering problems of access to the sea for eastern Zaïre, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda. A similar project for land-locked countries of southern Africa, which would also cover access corridors to southern Zaïre, was getting under way. A request from the Department of Transport and Communications of Zaïre for assistance in the field of container management and relating to facilitation of documentation procedure was under consideration. Zaïre had been invited to send participants to UNCTAD's courses and seminars on ports and had been associated with the regional project on port statistics. It would also be associated with a regional project on assistance to the secretariat of the Ministerial Conference of Western and Central African States on Maritime Transport, which was being submitted to UNDP. A technical assistance project for the Zaïre Foreign Trade Centre had recently been under renegotiation. The UNCTAD secretariat had assisted in preparations and negotiations in the Paris Club, for the reorganization of part of Zaïre's external debt, particularly in the context of that country's development problems. The UNCTAD secretariat was ready to respond to any request from the Government of Zaïre for additional technical co-operation to assist in solving that country's problems, within UNCTAD's areas of competence and available resources.

Mr. ENCHENH (Zaire) said that his delegation had taken note of the activities undertaken by the UNCTAD secretariat, and welcomed the prompt co-operation his country had received. The land-locked countries had to face special problems in their development and foreign trade, for which urgent solutions were required. Zaire, while intending to seek such solutions through bilateral and multilateral co-operation, hoped that the UNCTAD secretariat would provide technical and logistic support to the countries of central and southern Africa for the speedy construction of the Trans-African Highway. In pursuing its efforts for the further implementation of Conference Resolution 110(V), the UNCTAD secretariat should inform the permanent ministers of Zaire and of other central and southern African countries of the progress being made. He did not have come to move from preliminary studies to specific measures.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (agenda items 2 and 7) (continued)  
(TD/3/1.565; TD/3(XK)/3C/L.3 and annexes)

Agreement to national liberation movements recognized by regional inter-governmental organizations (TD/3(XK)/3C/L.3)

Mr. LAFER (IR Salvador), introducing draft resolution TD/3(XK)/3C/L.3/Rev.1 on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77, pointed out that the word "still" after the word "countries" in operative paragraph 1 should be deleted. The draft resolution had been the subject of intensive negotiations in the Subsidiary Committee. Since it had not been possible to reach a consensus on the text, it was now submitted for consideration by the Board. He requested a roll-call vote on the draft resolution.

Mr. KHALIL-GELEH (Algeria) said that it should have been possible for the draft resolution, which contained nothing new, to be adopted by the Board by consensus. The General Assembly had adopted a number of similar resolutions concerning national liberation movements recognized by regional organizations. To vote on the draft resolution would be a retrograde step.

Mr. EL-AMIRY (Israel), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that the continuous attempts being made to involve UNCTAD in sensitive and extraneous political matters was to be deplored. Conference resolution 109(V), to which reference was made in the third preambular paragraph of draft resolution TD/3(XK)/3C/L.3/Rev.1, had been initiated by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). With regard to operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, his delegation strongly opposed any assistance to the PLO, whose avowed objective was to destroy Israel. His delegation would vote against the draft resolution.

Mr. EL-FITIAL (Cyria), associating himself with the views expressed by the Algerian representative, said that there should be no need to vote on the draft resolution when peoples were being deprived of their right to self-determination. The draft resolution reflected the reality of Israeli occupation of Palestine and of the colonialist situation in Africa and he failed to understand why there should be any opposition to it.

Ms. SEMMAM-RESLEH (Algeria) pointed out that she had made no reference to any specific liberation movement, but had merely referred to liberation movements recognized by regional organizations and by the United Nations system. Delegations wishing to express reservations should refrain from mentioning national liberation movements by name.

Mr. AL SAYYAD (Qatar) said that the PLC was a member of the Asian group of developing countries, of the Group of 77 and of the Arab League. It had also been the subject of new initiatives taken by certain European countries. He hoped that that situation would be reflected in the decision taken on the draft resolution.

A vote was taken by roll-call on draft resolution TD/B(CC)/SC/L.3/Rev.1.

Cuba, having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first.

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaya, Malta, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Yemini Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaïre.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden.

Draft resolution TD/B(CC)/SC/L.3/Rev.1 was adopted by 65 votes to 13, with 14 abstentions.

Mr. ALENCAR (Brazil) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, as it had done in the case of Conference resolution 109(V). The statement it had made concerning the sixth preambular paragraph of the latter resolution applied also to the resolution just adopted by the Board.

Mr. BELLAÏE-MESLEH (Algeria) said that the manner in which a number of delegations had voted represented a retrograde step in relation to decisions recently taken by them in other bodies.

Mr. CALINDO (Colombia) and Mr. QUIROS GUANDIA (Costa Rica) said that their delegations had abstained in the vote on the draft resolution in view of the fact that the studies requested in Conference resolution 109(V) were proceeding.

Economic co-operation among developing countries (E/CN/XX)/L.12)

Mr. LOPEZ LOPEZ (El Salvador), introducing draft decision E/CN/XX/L.12 which had been submitted by his delegation on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77, drew attention to corrections which were to be made in that text. In the first preambular paragraph, the words "on specific aspects of interregional economic co-operation among developing countries" were to be added at the end, after the words "if they so wish"; and in the first operative paragraph, the words "of regional groups, especially" were to be inserted between the words "governmental experts" and the words "of developing countries ...". Furthermore, it had been decided by the sponsors that the text should be considered a draft resolution and not a draft decision. If the draft resolution could not be adopted by consensus, he requested that a roll-call vote should be taken on it.

Mr. HEINT (Federal Republic of Germany), speaking on behalf of the countries of Group B except Turkey, said that the draft was not acceptable to them for reasons already explained in the Contact Group of the Sessional Committee, which he would repeat in explanation of vote after the vote.

Mr. BELLATI-INSLEY (Algeria) asked why the countries of Group B were refusing to accept provisions previously agreed to in UNCTAD resolution 127 (V) and General Assembly resolution 34/302.

Mr. STEINBACHER (Administrative Service) informed the Board of the financial implications of the draft resolution. The meetings provided for in the second operative paragraph would cost a total of \$148,000.

Replying to a question from Mr. ALMEIDA (Brazil), he confirmed that the financial implications he had given were an estimate for the servicing of four weeks of meetings. If the servicing provided for was not used in totis, the cost would be accordingly smaller.

A vote was taken by roll call on draft resolution E/CN/XX/L.12 corrected as indicated by the representative of El Salvador.

Rollcall vote. Having been drawn by lot by the President, was called upon to vote first:

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Bulgarian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The draft resolution was adopted by a vote of 23 to 5, with 8 abstentions.

Mr. BIRK (Hungary), speaking in explanation of vote on behalf of the countries members of Group A, said that those countries viewed economic co-operation among developing countries as the sovereign concern of the developing countries and a matter in which UNCTAD could participate only within its sphere of competence. The Group B countries had expressed reservations in their work with regard to paragraphs 13 and 14 of Conference resolution 127 (V), in the absence of a specific definition of the work to be undertaken under that resolution. They had therefore abstained in the vote on draft resolution 127 (V) and 128 (V). Had that text been voted on paragraph by paragraph, they would have voted against the first and seventh operative paragraphs.

Mr. BIRK (Federal Republic of Germany), speaking on behalf of the countries of Group B which had voted against the resolution, said that such vote must not be construed as a lack of interest in economic co-operation among developing countries as such, to which they attached great importance as an important aspect of UNCTAD activities. They also attached great importance to the principle of sovereign equality and universality. For example, in resolution 127 (V), in the context of three preparatory sessions of a technical seminar in developing countries in order to prepare for the special session of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries. At the present session of the Board, however, they had been asked to authorize further sessions of technical seminars without having had an opportunity to examine the proposals of the developing countries on the priorities for further sessions of technical co-operation among developing countries. They therefore preferred to withhold their services on not attending and organization of future meetings until they had received the results of the working meetings. With respect to the final paragraph of the resolution just adopted, it continues to be their understanding that the substance of the work programme of UNCTAD in economic co-operation among developing countries is to be discussed and approved by the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries. They regretted that the resolution had been put to the vote, as they felt that a consensus should have been reached on the basis of the principles he had outlined.

Mr. ELIASHIV (Israel) said that his delegation had often shown its support for economic co-operation among developing countries, to which it attached great importance as one of the main prerequisites for improving economic and social conditions in all countries. The concepts of economic and technical co-operation among those countries fitted well into Israel's philosophy of development co-operation. As a developing country itself, it had for more than two decades been participating in a variety of activities with developing countries of different continents. It had therefore joined in the consensus on Conference resolution 127 (V) on the understanding that the meetings of experts of developing countries provided for in its paragraphs 13 and 14 would be open to participation by all developing countries members of UNCTAD, on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality and universality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. Those principles had been reflected in the deliberations in the negotiating committee on economic co-operation among developing countries at the fifth session of the Conference, and he regretted that the procedures pursued by the secretariat in implementing that resolution had been contrary to the spirit of the consensus finally reached, and in defiance of the basic principles he had mentioned. His country, together with others, believed that UNCTAD meetings on economic co-operation among developing countries, including the meetings envisaged in the resolution just adopted by the Board, should be open to all interested developing countries.

The delegation could not support the request in the operative paragraph to give the secretariat special status to include in its programme of work the implementation of the conclusions of the ongoing Interregional meeting of developing countries. It felt that the meeting had been convened and before it had taken place an opportunity to examine, evaluate and discuss them. It had therefore been obliged to vote against the resolution.

Mr. GHANAI-YESIE (Ghana) drew the attention of the delegations which had voted against the resolution to the fact that the resolution they had taken was inconsistent with General Assembly resolution 31/322 which represented a step backwards from the position they had adopted. He recalled Conference resolution 127 (V).

Re-establishment of structural adjustment (T.D/AR.577)

The PRESIDENT said that, following the session which had taken place in the Contact Group that afternoon, the Board had had before it a draft decision contained in document T.D/AR.577. The draft contained on the same subject submitted on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77 (T.D/AR.577/L.9) and on behalf of States members of Group B (T.D/AR.577/L.10) had been withdrawn.

Mr. SETHAKORN (Administrative Services) informed the Board of the financial implications of draft decision (T.D/AR.577). The cost of implementation of the decision was estimated at \$11,000.

The draft decision was adopted.

Mr. SHEN (Bangladesh), speaking on behalf of the countries of Group B and Mongolia, said that paragraph 4 of the decision did not in any way prevent the Secretary-General of UNCTAD from taking into consideration, in preparing the documentation called for, the possible contributions of member States.

Mr. HONOR LOPEZ (El Salvador), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said that the decision adopted, while not wholly reflecting the aspirations of that Group, was the result of difficult negotiations and constituted a compromise solution. It was the Group's understanding that the work programme referred to in paragraph 3 was a work programme which would be adopted by the Board and would include the items mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the decision; it would not cover any other item.

Mr. KUNZE (Federal Republic of Germany), speaking on behalf of Group B, said that the statement just made by the spokesman for the Group of 77 would require further study before he could comment upon it. It had become obvious in the negotiations that there were different interpretations of Conference resolution 131 (V). He considered the text of the decision just adopted perfectly clear: paragraphs 1 and 2 set out what the Board was to do at future sessions and paragraph 3 provided for the establishment of a Sessional Committee which would give priority consideration to those matters. He was concerned at the financial implications of the decision, and stressed that the countries of Group B would make every effort to keep the costs involved as low as possible.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Board wished to take note of the report of the Sessional Committee (T.D/B/L.69; T.D/B/XX/SC/L.6 and addenda) and incorporate it in the report of the Board on its twentieth session.

It was so decided.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS (agenda item 1) (continued):

(C) PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION (ID/2/L.535)

The PRESIDENT drew the Board's attention to the draft provisional agenda for its twenty-first session contained in document ID/2/L.535, to which were further items should be added, namely item 3 of the agenda for the twentieth session with the deletion of the words "and UNCTAD's necessary contribution to a New International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade"; an item entitled "Implementation of Trade and Development Board resolution 185 (S-IV) on trade and development problems of developing countries"; and an item entitled "Rationalization of the permanent machinery of UNCTAD".

He took it that the Board wished to adopt the draft provisional agenda with the additions he has indicated and to authorize the President, in consultation with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to adjust and complete it as necessary in the light of developments.

It was so decided.

Mr. KRYZSEKOWSKI (Poland), speaking on behalf of the Group B countries, observed that there was a danger of repetition at the twenty-first session of the discussions which had taken place during the twentieth session. The Board should adhere to the established principle of a more selective approach to the choice of agenda items, as that would facilitate its work and increase its efficiency. Prior to the twenty-first session the President should therefore consult not only the Secretary-General of UNCTAD but also the representatives of the regional groups concerning the agenda for the session. Above all, the agenda should not include items for which the documentation would not be prepared by the secretariat sufficiently in advance to comply with the six-week rule.

The PRESIDENT confirmed that the necessary consultations would take place.

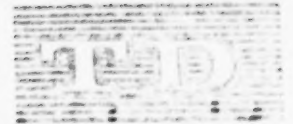
The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Board wished to request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to consult with delegations regarding the organization of work of the twenty-first session and to circulate his suggestions thereon.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 10.30 p.m.



**TD/B/  
SR.536**



Distr.  
GENERAL  
TD/B/SR.536  
28 March 1980  
ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

# United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

## TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Twentieth session

### SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 536th MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
on Wednesday, 26 March 1980, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia)

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(ii) Detailed features for further operations relating to debt problems of interested developing countries (Trade and Development Board resolution 165 (C-IX), part B) (agenda item 6) (continued)

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Adoption of the report of the Board to the General Assembly (agenda item 11)

Closure of the session

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of the Board at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

The meeting was called to order at 11.35 a.m.

INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND RELATED MATTERS (agenda item 9)  
(continued)

(e) REVIEW OF THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS (TD/B/L.555 and Add.1)

1. Mr. LYDON (Secretariat), introduced a note by the UNCTAD secretariat concerning the calendar of meetings for the remainder of 1980 and the tentative schedule for 1981 (TD/B/L.555). In section (j), the Board's attention was drawn to the understanding arrived at during consultations, that the Board would, at its present session, review the question of holding the ninth session of the Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade in two parts. Annex I to document TD/B/L.555 contained a draft calendar which reflected these suggestions.

2. A statement of the financial implications of a further session of the Working Group on Rules of Origin had been circulated under the symbol TD/B/L.555/Add.1. The Board had already taken note of the financial implications, circulated in document TD/B/77/L/Add.1, of the holding of a second session of the Ad hoc UNCTAD/UNIDO Group of Experts on Trade and Trade-related Aspects of Industrial Collaboration Arrangements.

3. At its present session, the Board had taken only one decision which affected the draft calendar of meetings. That was the decision it had adopted, on 25 March 1980, on the subject of economic co-operation among developing countries. It was therefore necessary to add to Annex I to document TD/B/L.555, in the section entitled "Meetings for which the dates are to be determined", the words "Meetings of governmental experts of regional groups, in particular of developing countries, on economic co-operation among developing countries - as required (up to 3 weeks)". Those four weeks of meetings were not being added to the calendar, but were to be taken from the number of weeks assigned to "other working parties, study groups, expert groups", which would naturally be revised to reflect the final action taken by the Board on the calendar of meetings. Taking into account the meetings which had been held since the beginning of the year, that calendar represented a total of 107½ weeks of meetings for 1980.

4. Under that calendar, except for the week of 21-25 April and the fortnight of 18-29 August, when a meeting of a small group of experts or a preparatory meeting under the Integrated Programme for Commodities could be scheduled, the facilities available to UNCTAD would not permit the scheduling of additional meetings until 6 October, unless meetings at present in the calendar were displaced.

5. Mr. JOZWIAK (Poland), speaking on behalf of Group B, said that the draft calendar of meetings for the remainder of 1980 was too heavy. It was his impression that all meetings which had been the subject of a decision had been automatically included in the calendar, without taking account of the actual possibilities. In particular, the technical possibility of their being successfully held. He seriously doubted whether the secretariat would be able to prepare the necessary

documentation in time; the convening of a number of the meetings was undesirable, as they could not be effectively in those circumstances. In that connection, he pointed out that, of 12 documents which should have been circulated six weeks before the Board's present session, only 10 had been circulated on time.

6. Group B proposed that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in consultation with representatives of groups of countries, should, where possible, either cancel or postpone all meetings for which the material would be unable to prepare the necessary documentation in time. That could save both time and money.

7. Group B had already indicated that it did not favour dividing the sixth session of the Committee on Injections and Financing related to Trade into two parts. It would revert to that question during consultations between the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and the co-ordinators of the Regional groups.

8. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of objection, he would take it that the Board, having taken note of the financial implications, approved the draft calendar of meetings for the remainder of 1969 and the tentative schedule for 1961 (TD/B/L.79), with the changes indicated by the Secretariat.

9. It was so decided.

(1) REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND FURTHER ACTION THAT MAY BE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RESOLUTION 1/5 (S-IX), PART A

(11) REVIEW OF FEATURES AND FURTHER ACTION RELATED TO DEBT PROBLEMS OF INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD RESOLUTION 1/5 (S-IX), PART B) (which also B) was closed

10. Mr. GRAVER-NYBY (France), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, expressed his Group's satisfaction that certain creditor countries had done something positive in implementation of the Board's resolution 1/5 (S-IX). The reasons which had motivated the international community to adopt that resolution were now even more pronounced than at the time of its adoption.

11. The Board had been informed by a communication (TD/B.79) of the relief measures taken by the Netherlands Government; it had learned of the decision of the Austrian Government to convert some past ODA credits into grants for some developing countries; it had also learned that France was planning to convert some ODA loans into grants, but the beneficiaries of that relief measure had not yet been identified. The Group of 77 appreciated these initiatives, which showed that the international community was increasingly aware of the need for debt relief measures in favour of the poorer developing countries. He hoped that all the developed creditor countries would take similar action in favour of all the poorer developing countries referred to in resolution 1/5 (S-IX).

SPECIFIC MATTERS ARISING FROM THE RESOLUTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE AT ITS FIFTH SESSION REQUIRING ATTENTION OR ACTION BY THE BOARD AT ITS TWENTYTH SESSION (agenda item 2) (continued):

Conference resolution 127 (V) - Economic co-operation among developing countries (continued)

12. Mr. BRILLANTES (Philippines) expressed his delegation's disappointment and concern at the result of the vote taken at the preceding meeting on draft resolution TD/B(XX)/SC/L.12 on economic co-operation among developing countries.

13. It was not the first time that the just and legitimate demands of the Group of 77 had been unfavourably received by the other groups. At the first session of the Conference, the mere mention of a generalized system of preferences had been taboo; it was only at the second session that the developed countries began to recognize the need for such preferences.

14. The preparation of a code of conduct for shipping conferences had at first given rise to the same fierce opposition; it was not until the third session of the Conference that a few developed countries had adopted a positive attitude towards the justifiable aspirations of the developing countries in that field, which had led to the convening of a diplomatic conference and the adoption of a Convention. In May 1979 it had been announced that the ratification procedure was to start in those countries where such ratification was necessary in order to give effect to the code of conduct. He understood that that process had unfortunately not yet been completed. His delegation hoped that it would be completed without further delay.

15. In the case of transfer of technology, too, the task had not been easy. It had required time and efforts to move from the stage of the Intergovernmental Group on Transfer of Technology set up at the third session of the Conference to the establishment of a main committee of UNCTAD. Efforts should be continued to develop a code of conduct on transfer of technology. That would be possible only if the other regional groups showed a positive will.

16. Some members of UNCTAD had shown such a will, for example, in the measures they had taken in order to achieve the LDC targets or to relieve the debts of certain developing countries.

17. While his delegation welcomed those encouraging developments, it deplored the lack of positive will on the part of the other groups with regard to economic co-operation among developing countries, which was quite apparent from the result of the vote on draft resolution TD/B(XX)/SC/L.12.

18. Mrs. RADELINA (Madagascar) said that her delegation fully endorsed the Philippine representative's statement and wished to revert to the result of the vote on the resolution on economic co-operation among developing countries (TD/B(XX)/SC/L.12). The record of voting in the United Nations and in other international agencies showed that it was always the same countries which opposed the just and relevant resolutions submitted by the majority of the

States Members of the United Nations. The resolution to which she had referred was only one example among many others which revealed the conflict between the developed countries and their partners. The climate was generally favourable for the establishment of the new international economic order, but there were also negative reactions by certain groups which were disinclined to forgo their privileges and were always ready to defend their interests against the highly legitimate interests of the developing countries. Whether one liked it or not, therefore, a confrontation situation did exist, and, in talking about negotiations, there was a tendency to ignore that fact. However, the developing countries, believing right to be on their side and convinced of the justice of their cause, namely the survival of the international community, were certain that they would prevail in the end.

19. Mr. CRANTES (Guatemala), speaking on behalf of the Latin-American group, said it was disappointed that the areas of agreement were becoming increasingly smaller, to such a point indeed that the objectives of the negotiations now seem unattainable. He appealed to the various groups, and especially to Group B, the one mainly responsible for that situation, to abandon, at forthcoming meetings, their present attitude, which seemed to be motivated by private interests, and try to reach some agreement and mutually advantageous conclusions, in order to avoid an accentuation of the present differences of opinion.

20. Mr. NUÑEZ-LOPEZ (El Salvador), endorsing the statement made by the representative of Guatemala, said that the progress made on the various questions covered by the agenda had not matched the undertakings given at the Conference's Fifth session and, moreover, did not respond to the developing countries' legitimate aspirations. He had been struck by the developed countries' negative attitude, particularly on the subject of economic co-operation among developing countries. However, international co-operation and solidarity aimed at meeting the developing countries' aspirations must not be confined to a review of the facts; economic co-operation among developing countries must now enjoy some specific and positive support.

21. Mr. ALULA (Ethiopia) said that the statements just made by the representatives of several developing countries clearly reflected the disappointment keenly felt by the Group of 77 as a whole. The setback to the North-South dialogue was now common knowledge; and, since the third session of the Conference, almost all the Group of 77's efforts to change the existing unfair economic relations between the developed and the developing countries had encountered opposition from the developed countries. Serious questions were no longer taken up in negotiations, and in UNCTAD the participants even had difficulty in agreeing on the date of their next meeting. Only the previous day the developed countries had rejected a proposal by the Group of 77 to set a date for the next meeting on economic co-operation among developing countries.

22. The developing countries had had the same experience during the GATT multilateral trade negotiations; they had been unable to participate in the consideration of questions which were of great interest to them, and everything had been handled between the rich exporting developed countries and the rich importing developed countries. The benefits obtained by the developing countries from those negotiations had been merely accidental and were in no way related to their needs. The legitimate wishes of the majority of those countries, however, could no longer be disregarded in that way; and even if the developed countries persisted in not wishing to negotiate rational economic relations, the developing countries would continue to press forward, relying increasingly on themselves, in accordance with the strategy of collective self-reliance which was now being applied by all and which offered better prospects than did co-operation with the developed countries. The North-South dialogue was in any case a recent phenomenon, the developing countries having long been on their own. The developed countries did not want to renounce a system of relations which benefited some at the expense of others, but the developing countries could no longer put up with relations of that type and, if the flexible transition which they proposed towards a harmonious and mutually profitable international division of labour was not accepted, they would find their own solution.

23. The Group of 77 would like UNCTAD to be more useful to all countries; but, there again, its proposals aimed at rationalizing the machinery itself had come up against the developed countries' resistance, when their objective was simply to improve the organization's work and to facilitate the attainment of its objectives through negotiation and consultation. The developed countries wished to continue indefinitely with exchanges of views, without ever achieving any results; but the developing countries would continue to act, with or without the developed countries' agreement. It was thus in the interests of all to negotiate and accept the changes which the developing countries justly called for.

24. The Board's current session had produced even fewer results than the preceding ones, and the situation could only worsen if the developed countries - particularly the members of Group B - did not alter their attitude. He urgently invited them to give effect to the Group of 77's reasonable proposals relating to all sectors of trade negotiations, resource flows and rationalization of the permanent machinery of UNCTAD. It was on the last-named topic that the developed countries' opposition had been most clearly shown; but it was inconceivable to let UNCTAD go to great efforts for results which were practically nil and which would benefit no-one. He therefore asked the developed countries to respond to the appeal made by the previous speakers for the benefit of all the members of UNCTAD.

25. Mrs. FUGLISI (Italy), speaking on behalf of Group B, said that the members of that Group regretted that, contrary to tradition, it had been necessary for them to vote on certain resolutions. In particular, they regretted having been unable to vote in favour of the resolution on economic co-operation among developing countries. That did not reflect a negative attitude on their part; the reasons for their vote had, moreover, been explained the previous day by other spokesmen for the Group. The situation could not, therefore, be described as a confrontation between the groups. For their part, the Group B countries hoped that the case had been an isolated one, and they were determined to make the utmost efforts in the future in order to find a more convenient means of taking decisions on questions which concerned all the members of the UNCTAD.

26. Mr. LIANES CERVANTES (Cuba) expressed his delegation's deep disappointment at the slight achievements of the Board's current session. In the Cuban delegation's

view, the repeated failure of negotiations showed that lack of political will had become a permanent factor, from which a lesson should now be learnt for the future. The consequences of the Group B countries' intransigence were difficult to foresee, and the developing countries could not wait indefinitely for relations which were of the utmost urgency for their peoples.

27. Mr. JOZWIAK (Poland), speaking on behalf of Group B, noted that the Board had been unable, at the present session, to resolve a problem or issues which posed in the field of international economic co-operation. That failure was of great concern to the Group B countries, which viewed the Board as an important body whose decisions would be submitted with a view to harmonizing development of international trade on the basis of equal rights and mutual benefit. The Group B countries had submitted constructive proposals during the session and felt that much had been accomplished. In their view the only way to resolve international trade issues was to approach them from a world standpoint and take all countries' interests into consideration. By putting that principle into operation, important problems could be solved and, of course, the developing countries' situation could be improved.

28. He also noted that the quality and timely circulation of documents was an important factor in the conduct of the Board's work. There had been a number of difficulties in that respect during the present session, and the Group B countries hoped that, in future, the secretariat would see to it that all the documentation was distributed in good time, in all the official languages.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE BOARD TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (agenda item 11)  
(TI/P/L.569 and Add.1-3)

29. Mr. BENWICK (Belgium) said that, in his view, it would be easier to read the report if each speaker's country was named.

30. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Board should adopt the draft report (TI/P/L.569 and Add.1-3) chapter by chapter, authorize the Rapporteur to complete it as appropriate and to incorporate in it the report of the Subsidiary Committee, as well as the observations made and amendments submitted by the members of the Board.

31. The report of the Board was adopted.

#### CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

32. Following an exchange of views on it, the PRESIDENT declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 2.55 p.m.